REMARKS

I. Support for the new claims.

Claim 1:

Support for, "a collet comprised of one or more sections that form a truncated conical shape" can be found in paragraph 35, namely, "In one embodiment, the collet may be a conical piece with a lumen concentrically oriented along the length of the collet" as shown in FIG. 4. In addition, in paragraph 35, "while the collet is preferably formed from two or more sections, it is contemplated that the collet may be formed from one or more sections."

Support for, "the shape of the collet comprising an outer diameter that increases from a first end to a second end creating an outside slope to slide within a collet housing, the collet further comprising a concentrically oriented lumen, the lumen having a cross section and length to fit a cross section and length of composite core" is found in paragraph 35 of the specification, namely, "the outer diameter of the collet increases from a first end of the collet to a second end, but the interior radius of the lumen remains constant. The outside slope or change in diameter from the first end to the second end of the collet should be neither too shallow nor too steep. If the slope is too shallow, the collet may be forcibly pulled through the end of the collet housing. Likewise, if the slope is too steep, the collet will not slide within the collet housing and apply increasing compressive forces on the composite core."

Support for, "the collet further comprising a concentrically oriented lumen, the lumen having a cross section and length to fit a cross section and length of composite core" may be found in paragraph 35, "a lumen concentrically oriented along the length of the collet." Further support may be found in paragraph 37, ""In one embodiment, the lumen perfectly fits the

composite core. In essence, the inside shape and size of the lumen is the same as the outside shape and size of the exposed composite core."

Support for, "a collet housing having a first open end to allow the collet to fit into the collet housing and a second open end having a smaller internal diameter than the first open end, the housing having a funnel-shaped interior that mirrors the outside slope of the collet to enable the collet to slide into the collet housing without allowing the collet to be forcibly pulled through the second open end of the collet housing," can be found in paragraph 39:

"Another element of the collet-type fitting is the collet housing coincident with the collet. The collet housing may comprise a mirror configuration to that of the collet to allow the collet to fit inside of the collet housing and further, to enable compression of the collet. Generally, a mirror configuration provides that the collet housing has the same general inside shape as the outside shape of the collet. In an exemplary embodiment, the collet housing is a tubular piece with a funnel-shaped interior as shown in FIG. 2B."

Further support may be found in paragraph 41, as further supported by FIG. 4: "The collet housing provides openings to allow the collet to mate with the composite cores. The embodiment shown has a first open end and a second open end." FIG. 4 clearly shows the first open end and the second end having a smaller internal diameter.

Support for claim 2 can be found in paragraph 44 of the specification.

Support for claim 3, can be found in paragraph 42 of the specification.

Support for claim 4, can be found in paragraph 41 of the specification.

Support for claim 5, can be found in paragraph 40 of the specification.

Support for claim 6, can be found in paragraph 35 of the specification, namely, "while the collet is preferably formed from two or more sections."

Support for claim 7, can be found in paragraph 35 of the specification.

Support for claim 8, can be found in paragraphs 42 and 43 as further supported by FIG. 2A.

Support for claim 9, can be found in paragraphs 59, 60 and 61 as further supported by FIG. 4A and 4B.

Support for claim 10, can be found in paragraph 33.

II. Drawing Amendment FIG. 3

Please replace FIG. 3 as filed with the replacement sheet FIG. 3. In particular, the following amendments have been made:

Drawing numbers 224 and 226 have been added to FIG. 3 as set forth in paragraph 41 in the specification to describe the two openings in the collet housing. In addition, the arrow illustrating the direction of tension on the collet was mistakenly numbered as 204 and should have been 304 in accordance with paragraph 44 in the specification.

Applicant believes that the application is in condition for substantive examination and such action is requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if it is believed that such communication will further the prosecution of the application.

Respectfully Submitted,
The McIntosh Group

Kelly de la Torre, Esq.
Registration No.: 53,677

Date: April 18, 2006

12635 East Montview Blvd.
Aurora, Colorado 80010
(720) 859-3543